

1 District Judge Tana Lin
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

9 SONYA SHAFQAT MAHMOOD,

Case No. 2:24-cv-01646-TL

10 Plaintiff,

STIPULATED MOTION TO HOLD
CASE IN ABEYANCE AND
[PROPOSED] ORDER

11 v.

12 RENA BITTER, *et al.*,

Noted for Consideration:
June 18, 2025

13 Defendants.

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15 Pursuant For good cause, Plaintiff and Defendants, by and through their counsel of record,
16 pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 6 and Local Rules 7(d)(1), 10(g) and 16, hereby jointly
17 stipulate and move to stay these proceedings until July 18, 2025. Plaintiff brought this litigation
18 pursuant to the Mandamus Act and the Administrative Procedure Act seeking, *inter alia*, to compel
19 Defendants to readjudicate Plaintiff's fiancé's nonimmigrant visa application. On May 30, 2025,
20 this Court granted in part and denied in part Defendants' Motion to Dismiss and denied Plaintiff's
21 cross-motion for summary judgment. Dkt. No. 23, Order. As a result, Defendants' response to
22 the Amended Complaint (Dkt. No. 9) is currently due on June 19, 2025. The Court also issued an
23 Order setting initial scheduling dates. Dkt. No. 24. Due to recent developments, the parties are
24 currently working towards a resolution to this litigation.

STIPULATED MOTION AND [PROPOSED] ORDER
[Case No. 2:24-cv-01646-TL] - 1

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
1201 PACIFIC AVE., STE. 700
TACOMA, WA 98402
(253) 428-3800

1 Courts have “broad discretion” to stay proceedings. *Clinton v. Jones*, 520 U.S. 681, 706
2 (1997). “[T]he power to stay proceedings is incidental to the power inherent in every court to
3 control the disposition of the causes on its docket with economy of time and effort for itself, for
4 counsel, and for litigants.” *Landis v. N. Am. Co.*, 299 U.S. 248, 254 (1936); *see also* Fed. R. Civ.
5 P. 1.

6 With additional time, this case may be resolved without the need of further judicial
7 intervention. Plaintiff’s fiancé’s visa application is currently refused under 8 U.S.C. § 1201(g), as
8 additional security screening was required. On May 19, 2025, the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad,
9 Pakistan, reached out to Plaintiff’s fiancé to obtain additional documentation. Additional time is
10 needed to allow for this information to be submitted and then for the Embassy to review and
11 process this information, which may lead to readjudication of the visa application. The parties
12 agree that a readjudication of the visa application may moot out this litigation in its entirety.

13 Accordingly, the parties request that the Court hold the case in abeyance until July 18,
14 2025. The parties further request that the Order Regarding Initial Disclosures, Joint Status Report,
15 and Early Settlement be vacated. Dkt. No. 24. The parties will submit a joint status report on or
16 before July 18, 2025.

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24 DATED this 18th day of June, 2025.

STIPULATED MOTION AND [PROPOSED] ORDER
[Case No. 2:24-cv-01646-TL] - 2

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
1201 PACIFIC AVE., STE. 700
TACOMA, WA 98402
(253) 428-3800

1 Respectfully submitted,

2 TEAL LUTHY MILLER
3 Acting United States Attorney

4 s/ Michelle R. Lambert
5 MICHELLE R. LAMBERT, NYS #4666657
6 Assistant United States Attorney
United States Attorney's Office
7 Western District of Washington
1201 Pacific Avenue, Suite 700
Tacoma, Washington 98402
Phone: (253) 428-3824
Fax: (253) 428-3826
Email: michelle.lambert@usdoj.gov

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9 *Attorneys for Defendants*

10 *I certify that this memorandum contains 365
11 words, in compliance with the Local Civil Rules.*

DAVIS NDANUSA IKHLAS & SALEEM
LLP

s/ Mohammed A. Saleem
MOHAMMED A. SALEEM, PHV
Davis Ndanusa Ikhlas & Saleem LLP
26 Court Street, Suite 603
Brooklyn, New York 11242
Phone: 718-783-6819
Email: msaleem@dnislaw.com

OPEN SKY LAW, PLLC

s/ Devin T. Theriot-Orr
DEVIN T. THERIOT-ORR, WSBA# 33995
Open Sky Law, PLLC
20415 72nd Avenue S. Suite 110
Kent, Washington 98032
Phone: 206-962-5052
Email: devin@opensky.law

Attorneys for Plaintiff

[PROPOSED] ORDER

The case is held in abeyance until July 18, 2025. The Order Regarding Initial Disclosures, Joint Status Report, and Early Settlement is vacated. Dkt. No. 24. The parties shall submit a joint status report on or before July 18, 2025. It is so **ORDERED**.

DATED this 20th day of June, 2025.

Tana Lin
Tana Lin
United States District Judge